

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 00832 131653Z

45

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 L-01 CIAE-00 SAM-01 DODE-00 /033 W

----- 110719

O 131640Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8493

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 0832

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DM, US

SUBJ: US-BENIN RELATIONS: MAY 15 BRIDGE DEADLINE

REF (A) COTONOU 824, (B) STATE 105124,

1. TOMORROW (MAY 14) WILL BE THE LAST WORKING DAY BEFORE WE REACH THE MAY 15 DEADLINE ON THE COTONOU BRIDGE (ACTUAL DEADLINE WAS MAY 12, BUT SOMEHOW THAT HAS GOTTEN MOVED TO THE 15TH IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GPRB). I AM CERTAIN TO BE CALLED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO PROVIDE AN ANSWER ABOUT THE GRANTING OF AN EXTENSION.

2. SINCE WE HAVE ALWAYS TALKED OF MAY 15 AS A FIRM DEADLINE, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE DATE CAN BE UPON US WITHOUT THE USG HAVING REACHED A DECISION. IN THE ABSENCE OF FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DEPT I WILL HAVE TO REPLY THAT THE SUBJECT IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. I WILL NOTE THE VAGUENESS OF THE GPRB'S WRITTEN RESPONSE TO OUR AIDE-MEMOIRE (REFS A AND B) AS A POSSIBLE CAUSE FOR THE DELAY IN OUR MAKING A DECISION.
CHESHES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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